

Message Text

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46

ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-05 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07 FRB-03

INR-07 NSAE-00 USIA-06 TRSE-00 XMB-02 OPIC-03 SP-02

CIEP-01 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 NSC-05 SS-15 STR-04

CEA-01 L-03 H-02 DODE-00 PA-01 PRS-01 AGR-05 IO-10

FEA-01 INT-05 /106 W

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R 221124Z JUL 75

FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8187

INFO AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY MANILA

AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ASEAN

SUBJ: US/ASEAN ECONOMIC CONSULTATIONS

REF: A. STATE 102360

B. KULA LUMPUR 2604

1. MFA ECONOMIC DEPARTMENT OFFICER CHET SUCHARITKUN, DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL OF ASEAN, PHONED ECON SOUNSELOR JULY 22 TO REPORT HE HAD BEEN IN MANILA JULY 11-12 FOR A MEETING OF THE ASEAN STANDING GROUP. CHET INDICATED THE QUESTION OF A CONSULTATIVE MEETING WITH THE USG WAS AGAIN DISCUSSED AT THE MEETING AND IT WAS DECIDED SUCH CONSULTATIONS MIGHT BE USEFUL. HE EXPLAINED IF USG WAS STILL INTERESTED PROPER CHANNEL FOR ARRANGING MEETING AND DISCUSSING TIMING AND AGENDA WOULD BE THROUGH FORSEC ROMULT IN MANILA AS ROMULO WAS NOW CHAIRMAN OF THE ASEAN STANDING COMMITTEE.

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2. ACCORDING CHET, ASEAN WOULD BE INTERESTED IN LEARNING MORE ABOUT OVERALL US ECONOMIC POLICIES, INVESTMENT POLICY AND GENERALIZED SPECIAL PREFERENCE ASPECTS OF US TRADE ACT. HE MENTIONED HIS ASEAN COLLEAGUES IN KUALA LUMPUR AND SINGAPORE WOULD ALSO BE NOTIFYING US EMBASSIES IN THEIR COUNTRIES OF ASEAN INTEREST IN CONSULTATIVE MEETING. HE EXPLAINED SINGAPORE, MALAYSIA AND THAILAND WERE THE THREE COUNTRIES AT MEETING PUSHING FOR CONSULTATION SO THEY WRE GIVEN TASK OF DETERMINING WHETHER OR NOT USG STILL INTERESTED.

3. COMMENT: WE SPECULATE THAT CIVIL SERVANTS ATTENDING MANILA MEETING FOUND LITTLE TO DISCUSS AND THEREFORE TURNED TO THIS LONG PENDING USG SUGGESTION. FACING AN UNCERTAIN FUTURE THE THOUGHT OF GUIDANCE AND PERHAPS SOME INSPIRATION FROM USG HAS APPEAL. KEY POINT AS WE SEE IT HERE IS THAT INITIATIVE SHOULD COME FROM ASEAN MEMBERS.
WHITEHOUSE

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Message Attributes

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